

### **Career Shadowing**

Career Shadowing Week, a BASICS program of the Blair County Chamber, provides all Blair County high school juniors the opportunity to shadow part of a day, observing and learning about career interests.

The program’s success is attributed to several volunteer groups consisting of Chamber members, school contacts, and the business community. Chamber members volunteer to find host employers and coordinate the shadowing opportunities between the employers and the students. School contacts from each of the seven Blair County public schools help the students apply for the experience and guide them from beginning to end with the time-consuming tasks associated with the program. The business community agrees to host nearly 400 students. The entire process is accomplished through phone calls, emails, and an interactive database website.



#### Feedback from Participants

“I was very intrigued by the traveling aspect of the job. Sitting in an office all day is not something I picture myself doing. Although careers in this field are not all fun and games, the paperwork seems tolerable. Having the chance to travel within my community and to others to help fix environmental related problems seems almost like a dream. Equally as important, you have the chance to form many relationships and connections around you.”

Jacey Myers

Central High School

Shadowed at Western PA Conservancy -  
Juniata and Potomac Region

“I liked and found every part of being a preschool teacher interesting to me. I got to interact with the kids; I got to read to the kids; and I got to see the benefits of preschool.”

Megan Houck

Hollidaysburg Area High School

Shadowed at Stay and Play Preschool

“Yes, this is something that I have wanted to do for a long time and the shadowing just confirmed that for me.”

Tyson Irvin

Bellwood-Antis High School

Shadowed at UPMC Altoona  
Cove Surgical Associates (Dr. Schmidt)